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Delaware programs receive national award for innovation

OMB's DEL, DelaWELL honored as co-winners of NASPE's 2008 Rooney Award

Dover – The National Association of State Personnel Executives announced Wednesday that two Delaware Office of Management and Budget initiatives were chosen as co-winners of the 2008 Eugene H. Rooney Award. Delaware Employment Link (DEL), the state's new online hiring system and the state's comprehensive wellness program, DelaWELL were selected for their innovative approach to human resource management. The award will be presented at NASPE's annual meeting in Oklahoma City in July.

"We are truly honored to receive such a prestigious award," said Office of Management and Budget Director Jennifer "J.J." Davis. "It is an honor that the Office of Management and Budget team receive this award during Public Service Recognition Week as they have really gone above and beyond in bringing these important programs to our employees and the state as a whole."

The Delaware Employment Link is a comprehensive online recruitment and selection system for state employment which uses a similar look and feel and is competitive with other large online job sites such as monster.com. Since its launch in March of 2007, DEL has cut the hiring time in half and has greatly increased the number of quality applicants applying for positions.

DelaWELL is a comprehensive wellness initiative that is offered free-of-charge to over 65,000 eligible state employees, spouses and their dependents. The multi-faceted program takes a proactive approach to health care by offering employees tools such as biometric screenings, health risk assessments, online health resources and Weight Watchers® offerings. DelaWELL has been a model for other states who are interested in setting up similar programs.

The Eugene H. Rooney, Jr. Awards program was established in memory of Eugene H. Rooney, Jr., who served as president of NASPE at a time of great growth for the organization. The program recognizes innovative state human resource management practices that ensure access and equity while enhancing productivity and service delivery. It also recognizes individuals who exemplify the character, qualities and influence that Rooney had on state personnel administration.